

1 JENNA MORTON: Comments of Jenna Morton
2 pertaining to Department of Energy Yucca Mountain
3 Draft Repository SEIS and Draft Nevada Rail Corridor
4 SEIS/Draft Rail Alignment EIS.

5 Monday, December 3, 2007.

6 My name is Jenna Morton. [I am a resident of
7 Las Vegas. I am a mother and a businesswoman. I am
8 commenting today on behalf of my family and my more
9 than 1,000 employees. My comments today, on both the
10 Yucca Mountain Draft Repository SEIS and the Draft
11 Rail Alignment EIS, also reflect the concerns of many
12 others in the Las Vegas residents and business
13 community.

14 First, with respect to the draft repository
15 SEIS, spent nuclear fuel is lethal. I believe that
16 that simple fact is often overlooked by the focus of
17 the technical details. I remind you again, spent
18 nuclear fuel is lethal with even the shortest
19 exposure.

20 It is my understanding that changes have
21 been made in the repository design to accommodate
22 transportation aging and disposal canisters (TADS)
23 which have not yet been designed or tested for
24 safety. I understand that even in the best case
25 scenario, as they are now envisioned, full TADS will
1 still emit a certain level of radiation impacting
2 anyone within a set proximity of the route on which
3 they will travel, including my company and my

4 children's school.

5 It is estimated that 113,000 people reside
6 within the one half mile radius area subject to
7 radiation emitted during the transport of the spent
8 nuclear fuel on its proposed journey through Las
9 Vegas.

10 I also understand that these canisters will
11 not be tested for the worst case scenario such as an
12 accident or a terrorist attack. Given the fact that
13 it is estimated that there could be more than 5,000
14 truck shipments and more than 10,000 rail shipments
15 of spent fuel, exposure to increased radiation among
16 the local population is all but guaranteed and the
17 probability of a more deadly outcome is existent at
18 the very least.

19 In both cases, whether it is ambient
20 radiation along the transportation route or the
21 drastic consequences of a larger scale radiation
22 leak, the risk to my family, employees and my
23 community is too grave. Remember, spent nuclear fuel
24 is lethal.

25 Further, we in Las Vegas are in the business
1 of marketing. The very specter of the possibility of
2 either of these scenarios could have a dire impact on
3 the tourist industry here, thus impacting the entire
4 economy of the state of Nevada.

5 With respect to the draft Nevada rail
6 corridor SEIS and the draft rail alignment EIS, the
7 same comments as to the safety of the transportation

8 of spent nuclear fuel apply.] I suggest that 2
9 opportunity for public comment be offered to any and
10 all residents of all communities along all
11 transportation routes between the 77 locations where
12 spent nuclear fuel is now being stored and the
13 proposed repository at Yucca Mountain. Each of those
14 residents should be made ample aware of the risks to
15 which they may be exposed. The people and the
16 economy of Nevada are not the only ones at risk.]

17 [Finally, given the overwhelming evidence 3
18 that Yucca Mountain cannot meet the health and safety
19 standards to achieve approval, the DOE must choose to
20 terminate the project and stop indiscriminately
21 wasting taxpayer money on a failed and lethal
22 concept.]

23 Please remember, spent nuclear fuel is
24 lethal even in small doses.